Archiving and Sharing

With the development of meta-analysis and funder requirements for sharing data, research data remains a valuable resource, even after the original study it was generated from comes to a close. This enables future researchers to open up new lines of enquiry without the duplication of effort involved in regenerating the data. Metadata plays a key role in allowing other researchers and you yourself when looking back in the future, to make sense of your data.

Benefits & drivers for managing and sharing your data

By managing your data well you be able to, repeat, replicate, reproduce and reuse your data and:

- Find and understand it when needed now and in the future.
- Avoid unnecessary duplication.
- Validate your results when required.
- Ensure your research is visible and has impact.
- Get credit when others cite your work.
- Comply with Funder mandates.
- Research Councils UK in its 2009 code of good research conduct says data should be preserved and accessible for 10 years +Research Funder data policies increasingly demanding of institutional commitment and encourage or mandate the creation of a research data management plan and the deposit of research data in a recognised data centre where such exist.
- Many leading journals require underlying datasets also to be published or made accessible as part of the essential evidence base of a scholarly article.

LSTM Data Repository

LSTM will have its own data repository later this year. The data repository will use the Eprints software making it compliant with funders' open access policies through use of the internationally recognised OAI 2.0 standard. It will provide a central registry of LSTM's published data which will enable us to locate, manage and curate the data after the project has ended.

It is planned that the data repository will have the following features:

- Facility to mint a DOI via Datacite
- Links to the publications repository (Online Archive)
- Archival storage to meet your funder's requirements

If you have any data sets which require archiving, or are submitting a new grant applications and need to include costs, please contact julia.martin@lstmed.ac.uk to discuss your requirements.

External archives

After checking your funders requirements, such as Open Access Initiative (OAI) compliance for example, the Register of research data repositories (r3data) has developed an excellent tool for you to identify a suitable repository for your data outputs. If you choose to submit your data to an external repository, LSTM would require you to publish a basic entry in our research data archive to ensure we have a record for adminstrative purposes.